

INDIANA COMMISSION ON AGING (COA)

Board Meeting Minutes

February 19, 2009 10:00AM – 12:00PM

Indiana Government Center South, Conference Room 17

402 W. Washington St., Indianapolis, IN

Commission Members in Attendance: Noble Stallon, Anita McColleston, Roxsandra Clemons-McFarthing, Bob Johnson, Ed Gottschling

Commission Members Absent: Geneva Sams, Dick Grace, Glen Bonsett, Humbert Lopes

Staff in Attendance: Willie Poindexter, Matt Naikelis

Visitors: Catherine Woodard, Orion Bell

Call to Order: Chairperson Stallons called the meeting to order and had members and visitors introduce themselves.

Chairperson Stallons made a motion to change the agenda to add congressional comments, which was added with unanimous approval from the Commissioners. A motion was made to approve the minutes and was seconded, with unanimous approval from the Commission.

Elder Friendly Communities: Chairperson Stallons provided an update on the Alzheimer's Task Force, saying the Division of Aging was working with ISDH and the Alzheimer's Association to revitalize the task force. Noble said that sometime in the future he would like to work on the diabetes issue as well.

Noble reviewed NNORCs, or Neighborhood Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities. Transportation is one component that helps make a community livable and many counties have been forced to cancel their transportation services because they cannot handle the financial burden. Roxsandra mentioned that in Fort Wayne, two specialized vans were given to a private cab company for use. The rides are being paid for through vouchers to help offset the cost to the riders.

Aging in Place: Catherine Woodard from the University of Indianapolis Center for Aging and Community presented information on the NNORCs. For additional information, you may contact her at woodardc@uindy.edu or LaNita Garmany at garmany@uindy.edu or via telephone at (317) 791-5941.

Public Comments: Orion Bell, the new CEO of CICOA, introduced himself and a brief history of his background, which includes 21 years with the Red Cross. Mr. Bell provided the Commissioners an update on CICOA's current initiatives, which include the NNORC program and a focus on strategic planning.

Commissioner Updates: Anita provided an update on issues in her area, including the NNORC, transportation and nutrition programs.

Roxsandra Clemons-McFarthing said she is in communication with the director of her community transportation network so she can receive any updates. She also discussed that the National Alzheimer's Association is planning a town hall meeting in Fort Wayne to discuss Alzheimer's issues.

Ed Gottschling commented that his local Area Agency on Aging has discontinued its bus service due to funding.

Bob Johnson spoke about his involvement with a local foundation.

Chairperson Stallons said his AAA is working to get other communities involved with the elder-friendly community concept and planning.

Legislation: Chairperson Stallons said that the Silver Alert bill is currently in the Senate, and has passed the House of Representatives. Some opponents of the Silver Alert bill feel it is too similar to Amber Alert and would confuse the public when utilized.

Catherine Woodard from the University of Indianapolis announced Ball State University will be hosting the 6th Annual Conference on Aging Well on Thursday, May 28th at Ball State University.

Chairperson Stallons announced that the Indiana Collaborative Conference on Aging will take place on November 10th and 11th, 2009. Senator Richard G. Lugar serves as Honorary Chairman.

Adjournment: With no further business Noble called for an adjournment.